

NOVEMBER 6, 2006

PUBLIC HEARING NOTICE

There will be a public hearing meeting of the **Law Enforcement and Corrections Committee** of the Board of Commissioners of Cook County on **Thursday, November 9, 2006**, at the hour of **2:30 P.M.** in the Board Room, Room 569, County Building, 118 North Clark Street, Chicago, Illinois to consider the following:

276232 A RESOLUTION REQUESTING THE COOK COUNTY SHERIFF IMPLEMENT AN OFFENDER WATCH SYSTEM WITH AN AUTOMATIC E-MAIL ALERT CAPABILITY (PROPOSED RESOLUTION). Submitting a Proposed Resolution sponsored by Joseph Mario Moreno, John H. Stroger, Jr., President, Jerry Butler, Forrest Claypool, Earlean Collins, John P. Daley, Elizabeth Ann Doody Gorman, Gregg Goslin, Carl R. Hansen, Roberto Maldonado, Joan Patricia Murphy, Anthony J. Peraica, Mike Quigley, Peter N. Silvestri, Deborah Sims, Bobbie L. Steele and Larry Suffredin, County Commissioners.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, 80-95% of sexual assault victims know their attacker; and

WHEREAS, 50% of sex offenders re-offend; and

WHEREAS, 45% of sexual assault victims are under 12 years of age; and

WHEREAS, at least half of convicted child molesters report that they also have sexually assaulted an adult; and

WHEREAS, more than half of rape/sexual assaults happen within one mile of the victim's home; and

WHEREAS, 80% of all addresses have at least one offender within a mile; and

WHEREAS, sex offenders cross socio-economic boundaries, living in both the richest and poorest of neighborhoods; and

WHEREAS, Illinois State statute sets a provision for a Sheriff's office to register offenders and notify the public; and

WHEREAS, offenders are very mobile, with 25% moving each year; and

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WHEREAS, the new offender population increases by a rate of 10% annually; and

WHEREAS, ~~online~~ alert systems are available, which not only allow a citizen to look up registered offenders in their area, but to receive an email alert, ~~followed by a postcard~~ and/or automated telephone alert when a registered sex offender moves to within one mile of sensitive addresses, such as a home, school, park, etc.; and

WHEREAS, a web-based offender ~~watch~~ alert system will also permit one to conduct address searches that will create a map showing all offenders within one mile of the address, as well as a geographic risk assessment of the offenders; and

WHEREAS, this program will also allow for city and name searches, as well as provide detailed descriptions on offenders including: name, aliases, physical description, photograph, nature of conviction and a map of the offender's address; and

WHEREAS, this program is an important tool that will enable one to attain this necessary knowledge to help keep our children and families safe and at a relatively low cost; and

WHEREAS, it is in the interest of everyone to help protect our children from this seemingly ever increasing danger.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Cook County Board of Commissioners does hereby request that the Cook County Sheriff's web site implement an Offender ~~Watch~~ Alert system with an automatic email alert capability as well as an automated telephone alert capability, which will assist in informing our residents where sexual offenders reside and thereby giving them, in a timely manner, the information they need to protect their families and reduce the chance of future victimization.

***Referred to the Committee on Law Enforcement and Corrections on 03/01/06.
Approved as Amended on 09/14/06.**

**Note: The Committee Report appeared on the Board Agenda of 09/19/06.
Following a letter read into the record, the Committee Report was withdrawn.**

The public may testify at this meeting. Persons wishing to testify should give their name and the name of any organization they are representing to the Secretary to the Board, 118 North Clark Street, Room 567, County Building, Telephone: (312) 603-6127. Also you can register at the above location, at the time of the meeting. Each organization will be limited to one speaker. Each speaker will be limited to 3 minutes. Speakers are requested to submit 30 copies of any written statement to the committee.

Michelle Harris, Secretary

Chairman: Maldonado
Vice-Chairman: Silvestri
Members: Butler, Gorman, Moreno, Peraica, Quigley